



Committee Members

Carl Weimer, Chair • Leo Bowman, Vice Chair
Pete Kmet • Richard Kuprewicz
Shirley Olson • Bill Rickard
Jean Buckner • Bob Bandarra
Duane Henderson • Grant Jensen • George Hills



Washington State Citizens Committee on Pipeline Safety

Meeting Minutes

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, Olympia, WA

August 2, 2007

Present members:

Carl Weimer, Chair
Pete Kmet
Shirley Olson
Rick Kuprewicz
Bob Bandarra
George Hills
Grant Jensen

Absent members:

Leo Bowman, Vice Chair
Jean Buckner
Bill Rickard
Duane Henderson

Public attendees:

Alan Rathbun, Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC), Pipeline Safety Director
Tim Sweeney, Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC)
Ilyne Lawson, Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC)
PJ Secrist, Williams Pipeline Company
Dan Kirschner, Northwest Gas Association (NWGA)
Earl Tower, BP Olympic Pipeline Company
Dave Knoelke, BP Olympic Pipeline
Gary Lee, Department of Ecology
Mike Myette, Utility Contractors Association of Washington
Mark Scoccolo, Utility Contractors Association of Washington

Agenda Items:

1. Welcome and Adoption of May 30 and 31, 2007 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was brought to order and Carl Weimer, Chair, welcomed all attendees. Bob Bandarra asked to add a note indicating that Terry Wolverton would be the new point of contact for TransCanada GTN Systems, replacing Rob Lattimer. In a unanimous vote, the committee adopted the May 30 and 31, 2007 meeting minutes as amended.

2. UTC Update

UTC Pipeline Safety Director Alan Rathbun provided an overview of recent events that have impacted the pipeline safety section. The items discussed included:

- Cascade Pipeline Inspection Settlement Approved
- UTC Issues Order on PSE Steel Pipe Plan
- Williams Reduces Pipeline Pressure on Lateral
- Spill Reported by ConocoPhillips on the Yellowstone Pipeline System
- Division II of Washington Appeals Court hears Pipeline Safety GIS Case
- Pipeline Safety hosts Western Region of National Association of Pipeline Safety Representatives (NAPSR)
- Pipeline Safety addresses County Association
- Visit with British Columbia Oil and Gas Commission and the BC Safety Authority
- Status of Member Appointments

3. Utility Contractors Association of Washington (UCAW) perspective on DigLaw

Mike Myette, UCAW executive director, and Mark Scoccolo, UCAW president, presented UCAW's perspective of RCW 19.122, the state's Call Before You Dig Law. UCAW represents utility contractors and excavators and is affiliated with the National Utility Contractors Association. This organization was involved in the passage of RCW 19.122 in the 1980s, and currently works with its members to encourage compliance with the law. The presentation covered UCAW's mission, membership, and its efforts and role in the One Call environment. This prompted a discussion by committee members regarding potential improvements and challenges currently posed by the current One Call process.

4. Bylaws Update (All)

Rick Kuprewicz made a motion to add the language to the committee's bylaws as proposed by Pete Kmet on 06/14/2007. The committee votes unanimously to adopt the language to section 9 of the Bylaws.

Materials provided to the committee and presentations made to the committee shall be included in the committee records. To the extent practical, these materials and presentations will be posted on the committee website, along with the meeting minutes. Presenters will be notified in advance of the meetings that presentation material will be made part of the meeting public record.

5. PST Agenda, New Orleans

Carl Weimer discussed the upcoming Pipeline Safety Trust conference in New Orleans, Louisiana. Committee members were invited and provided with a conference registration form.

6. RP 1162 Updates – Williams Pipeline

PJ Secrist, with Williams Pipeline Media Relations office, gave a presentation on the Williams Gas Pipeline Company's RP 1162 program with the assistance of Grant Jensen. Ms. Secrist described some of Williams' yearly public awareness initiatives and provided examples of some of Williams' non-RP1162 public outreach initiatives.

7. Pipelines and Informed Planning Alliance (PIPA) and other pipeline/land use news

Tim Sweeney and Carl Weimer summarized the recent PHMSA steering committee meeting on land use. The PIPA meeting will be looking at providing local governments with guidelines on land use development near pipelines.

8. Current federal efforts around possible control room regulations

Rick Kuprewicz provided a presentation on the regulation of control rooms and control room risks. The committee agreed that it would like to learn more about control rooms before making recommendations. Shirley Olson suggested the committee tour a control room in the future if possible. The committee wants to include control room related topics on future agendas and status updates on the regulation of control rooms as information becomes available.

9. Public Comment

Ken Meyer, resident of King County, commented that the committee has had the issue of third party damages on its agenda since the committee was formed. He suggested that the committee advise the Legislature on addressing third party damage and how it can be prevented.

10. Future Meeting Locations and Agendas – Other Business

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday October 4, 2007 in Bellingham, WA. The Committee will hold its meeting in the Whatcom County Courthouse. The committee discussed having a tour the day before on Wednesday and having the meeting on Thursday to accommodate the travelers unable to stay overnight.

The meeting adjourned at 2:35 pm